

APPARTUS AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING AN INFLATABLE
CUSHION

ABSTRACT

5 An air bag device, comprising: an inflatable cushion being
configured for deployment from the air bag device; an inflator for inflating the
inflatable cushion, the inflator being in fluid communication with the inflatable
cushion, the inflator comprising a first initiator for initiating a first stage of
inflation and a second initiator for use with the first initiator for initiating a
10 second stage of inflation, the first stage of inflation providing a first inflation
output to the inflatable cushion; and a deployable member disposed within the
inflatable cushion, the deployable member being in fluid communication with
the inflator, wherein the first stage of inflation causes the deployable member to
deploy in a first direction; wherein unobstructed deployment of the deployable
15 member in the first direction will cause a signal to be sent to the second initiator
to initiate the second stage of inflation.